



**Minutes of the February 08, 2023, Board Meeting of the  
Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority  
Held at the Gales Ferry Office & via Zoom**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Joe Bragaw called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Joe Bragaw	East Lyme Representative	P	Bob Carlson	North Stonington Representative	A
Kevin Seery	East Lyme Alternate Representative	A	Don Hill	North Stonington Alternate Representative	A
Todd Babbitt	Griswold Representative	P	Patrick McLaughlin	Norwich Representative	P
Stacey Leitch	Groton Representative	P	Brian Long	Norwich Alternate Representative	A
Joe Lozier	Ledyard Representative	A	Sandra Allyn-Gauthier	Preston Representative	A
Steve Masalin	Ledyard Alternate Representative	A	Jim Corley	Preston Alternate Representative	P
Ronald McDaniel	Montville Representative	P	Cheryl Blanchard	Sprague Representative	P
John Carlson	Montville Alternate	P	Paul Copenhagen	Sprague Alternate Representative	A
Brian Sear	New London Representative	A	Jill Senior	Stonington Representative	P
David DeNoia	New London Alternate Representative	A	Gary Schneider	Waterford Representative	P
			Daniel Matheson	Waterford Alternative Representative	A

P = Present, C=Call In (Audio), A=Absent

**Quorum present**

Others: David Aldridge, SCRRRA Executive Director; Robin Cano, SCRRRA Administrator; Christopher Roman, SCRRRA Finance Manager; SCRRRA Legal Counsel Richard Barger, SCRRRA Consultant Jim Bolduc and Alan Ladd, North Stonington Representative.

**3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

**4. ACT ON MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON JANUARY 11, 2023**

Majority was in favor; none were opposed.

(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stacey Leitch)

5. FINANCE REPORTS

Dave Aldridge reviewed December's Finance Report  
(Motion by Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat McLaughlin)

6. PRESIDENT'S / STAFF REPORTS

**PROJECT:**

**I.Subcommittee Update - FOIA Regulation and Meeting Schedule**

• **Waste Diversion Committee**

Mr. Aldridge informed us that the Waste Diversion Committee met on Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup>. The first order of business was to establish a regular meeting time, the third Thursday of each month at 10AM. The committee discussed Household Hazardous Waste collections, wood chip management and grinding operations. Other topics included the Prairie Robotics pilot project and textiles.

• **Finance Committee**

Mr. Aldridge told us that the Committee met on Tuesday January 17<sup>th</sup>. The first topic discussed was a review of two graphs developed by Jim Bolduc and Chris Roman. The first chart depicts the estimated cost of operations for FY 23, the plan for FY 24 and a forecast for FY 2032. The second graph shows revenues for the same time periods. These graphs will be discussed with the Executive Committee this month. The Committee also discussed non-member waste contracts which we will review later today in Executive Session.

• **Special Projects Committee**

Mr. Aldridge said that The Special Projects Committee met on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Committee discussed 3 potential sites for Organics processing.

• **Human Resources Committee**

The Human Resources Committee did not meet during January, will discuss the latest draft of the Employee Handbook / Personnel Rules later this month.

**II.Organics Grant Update**

Mr. Aldridge referred to The Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling grant (SWIFR) and the Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach grant (REO) are due next Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup>. Liz Sawyer, Greg McCarren and Mr. Aldridge have been working on our SWIFR grant submission and are about 85% finished. The grant request is for financial support to offset the cost of construction and equipment expense for an Organics facility. The REO grant submission is to compensate us for the cost of the contamination reduction pilot and its potential expansion. Mr. Aldridge referred to two letters in our paperwork package. They are draft letters of support that we are asking towns to complete on town letterhead and return to us by next week. We have also sent out electronic versions on Microsoft Word to assist with formatting. The minimum award for the SWIFR grant is \$500,000 and the REO grant is \$250,000 so any support we receive has a big payback potential.

### III. Governor's Bill on Solids Waste and CMMS Amendment

On January 27<sup>th</sup> Mr. Aldridge distributed a synopsis of the Draft Amendment to the CT Material Management Strategy, or CMMS, along with notes taken from the DEEP Solid Waste Action Committee meeting held on January 26<sup>th</sup>. The topic was discussed at some length in the Executive Committee Meeting and there have been subsequent requests by Board Members for SCRRRA to submit an opinion at the February 14<sup>th</sup> hearing on the Amendment. As you will recall they focused on several strategies to mitigate the impact of the MIRA plant closure.

- Acceleration of Organics Diversion
- Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging
- Providing Assistance to Municipalities and COG's to form Regional Waste Authorities
- Initiation of an RFI for innovative materials management infrastructure

All of this is fine, but they also call for increasing and expanding the existing Solid Waste Assessment. This assessment was originally a dioxin emissions from WTE facilities. The tax started at \$.40 and increased to \$1.50/ton and currently is deposited in the State's General Fund. The plan is to double the tax to \$3.00 a ton for waste going to WTE facilities and to assess a \$5.00/ton tax on MSW transferred out of state and for C&D Waste. Jim Bolduc and Mr. Aldridge did a quick calculation that estimated the annual tax to amount to around \$6 million. The problem, as Mr. Aldridge sees it, is that the State wants to access taxes without any clear plan or path forward....essentially creating an open-ended fund without knowing what it is going to pay for.

#### New Business

None

#### Executive Session

##### **Motion to move into Executive Session**

**Time In: 2:55PM**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed  
(Motion Ron McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pat McLaughlin)**

##### **Motion to leave Executive Session**

**Time Out: 3:38PM**

**No Action Taken**

**Discussion: None**

**Majority were in favor, none were opposed  
(Motion Todd Babbitt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron McDaniel)**

#### ADJOURNMENT

Joe Bragaw requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was made by Todd Babbitt and seconded by Ron McDaniel and was approved unanimously.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Schneider  
Secretary